many countries, like France 75.8% Lithuania 77.2% Korea 41.4% Belgium 55.2% etc. based on IAFA study.

Delegation of SSI Enterpreneurs to USA

*310. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether she lead a delegation of SSI entrepreneurs to USA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any discussion was held with the Government of USA and other concerned institutions; and

(d) whether any MOU was signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) MOS (SSI & ARI) led an official-cum-business delegation of SMEs to USA from 13th February to 18th February, 2000. She was accompanied by two Officers and a nineteen member team from the C.I.I.

(c) Discussion were held with the US Small Business Adminstrator. Seminars on India jointly organized by USIBC and CII on business opportunities in India were also attended.

(d) No, Sir.

Blue Book for LPG Consumers

†*311. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issuance of Blue Book and its acceptance by the consumers is mandatory at the time of giving new LPG connection;

(b) whether in transfer cases, the gas agencies can refuse connections to the consumers in the absence of Blue Book inspite of submitting original Transfer Voucher issued by the previous agency;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that Jamshedpur Gas Service,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.